

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

MMO-01 SP-02 /033 W

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R 111440Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7757

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1334

LIMDIS

EUR FOR BIEGEL; S/NM; DEPT ALSO PASS DEA

PARIS PASS TO PICINI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, NL

SUBJECT: DEA REQUEST TO STATION THIRD MAN IN THE HAGUE

REF: PARIS 4402

1. SUMMARY. JUSTICE MINISTER VAN AGT WELCOMES THE ADDITION OF A THIRD DEA OFFICER IN THE NETHERLANDS. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE FURNISH GUIDANCE FOR NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY. END SUMMARY.

2. THE AMBASSADOR CALLED ON MINISTER OF JUSTICE VAN AGT MARCH 4 TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF THE DEA PRESENCE IN THE NETHERLANDS. ASKED FOR HIS REACTION TO AN INCREASE FROM TWO TO THREE IN THE NUMBER OF DEA OPERATIVES, VAN AGT REPLIED "THE SOONER THE BETTER" AND WENT ON TO EXPRESS HIS SATISFACTION WITH THE DEA PRESENCE TO DATE. HE SAW NO DIFFICULTY IN PROCEEDING IMMEDIATELY WITH THE ADDITION.

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3. THE AMBASSADOR TOLD THE MINISTER THAT HE HAD

ESTABLISHED THE FOLLOWING GROUND RULES FOR DEA OPERATION: A) NO WEAPONS SHOULD BE CARRIED, AND B) NO OPERATIONS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITHOUT THE EXPRESS KNOWLEDGE OF THE RESPONSIBLE DUTCH OFFICIALS.

4. THE MINISTER SAW NO DAMAGE FROM A RECENT ARTICLE IN THE PRESTIGIOUS ECONOMIC DAILY NRC HANDELSBLAD WHICH CLAIMED THAT HIS CHANGE IN ATTITUDE TOWARD HARD DRUGS DATED FROM HIS VISIT IN 1975 TO THE U.S. NOT ONLY WAS THE ARTICLE NOT DAMAGING, SAID VAN AGT, IT WAS ENTIRELY TRUE. MOREOVER, HE EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR WHAT THE EMBASSY HAD DONE TO ARRANGE HIS VISIT.

5. THE MINISTER EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT HE WAS AT LAST GETTING HIS NEW DRUG ENFORCEMENT TEAM ORGANIZED. HE EXPLAINED THAT IT HAD BEEN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO SET UP IN VIEW OF THE NUMEROUS OVERLAPPING JURISDICTIONS, EACH JEALOUS OF THEIR PREROGATIVES. HE SAID THAT BY APRIL 1 DRUG TEAMS WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN ALL THE MAJOR CITIES. THERE WAS NO DOUBT IN HIS MIND THAT THE HARD DRUG SITUATION WAS BECOMING VERY SERIOUS IN THE NETHERLANDS. HE SAID THAT MORE THAN 20 KILOS OF HEROIN HAD BEEN SEIZED IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY ALONE, AN ENORMOUS QUANTITY FOR SO SMALL A COUNTRY. WHEN ASKED DURING HIS APPEARANCE IN PARLIAMENT FOR THE DRUG DEBATE WHETHER AMSTERDAM WAS NOW AN INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR HARD DRUG TRADE, VAN AGT HAD HAD TO ANSWER AFFIRMATIVELY, MUCH TO HIS REGRET.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON WHAT TO SAY IN NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR ADDITIONAL DEA OFFICER.
GOULD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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